

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION (CIC) MEETING
WEDNESDAY- -OCTOBER 6, 2010- -7:01 P.M.

Mayor/Chair Johnson convened the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL - Present: Councilmembers/ Commissioners deHaan, Gilmore,
Matarrese, Tam and Mayor/Chair Johnson – 5.

Absent: None.

CITY MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS

(10-491 CC/ 10-72 CIC) Update on Alameda Unified School District Assistance: Toddler and After School Child Care (Woodstock Child Development Center)

The Interim City Manager gave a brief presentation.

Mayor/Chair Johnson inquired how the State restored the funding and if it was through special legislation.

The Deputy City Manager – Administrative Services responded the Big Five, which is the Governor and the Leaders of the Assembly and Senate, came up with a package of cuts and revenue enhancements, including creative accounting and federal dollars that are not yet secured; as part of that package, the legislature churned over the summer for more than 100 days and the program has been put back in through the Big Five Conference; the budget conference committee met on October 6th and it is unlikely that the money will be taken back out; the matter will be confirmed after the October 7th vote.

Councilmember/ Commissioner Matarrese requested the method of helping remain ready in hopes of being able to restore adult education and recreation programs.

The Interim City Manager agreed; stated even though there is a respite this year, future action is uncertain; when impacts to the School District and City are known, staff will report back to the Council/ Commission.

Councilmember/ Commissioner Gilmore inquired if, and how much, the deficit was closed.

The Deputy City Manager – Administrative Services stated the State claims to have closed the approximately \$19 billion deficit with creative maneuvers and federal money, which still has to be secured.

In response to Vice Mayor/ Commissioner deHaan's inquiry about how the City will stay out of the budget, the Interim City Manager stated the budget is strategic and responds to a lot of heavy press criticizing the Legislature; after a new Governor is elected, there will be a surprise package.

The Deputy City Manager – Administrative Services stated the State is starting to issue IOU's this month.

The Interim City Manager stated none of the budget deficit reflects the 2012 – 13 State hit of PERS costs.

Mayor/Chair Johnson inquired whether the Government has 35,000 more employees now than 5 years ago, to which staff said information is unknown at this time.

Councilmember/Commissioner Matarrese requested an Off Agenda report be posted on the website summarizing the comments of the Deputy City Manager – Administrative Services.

Councilmember/Commissioner Tam requested clarification on whether the City has provided some of the CDBG funding; inquired whether the funding would affect the School District's loss in State funding.

The Interim City Manager responded the School District can only use the money for certain things; the only way the School District would not get a dollar-for-dollar take [from the State] is if the City gives a grant, or eliminates or offsets a School District General Fund expense; the funding was a one-time, 90-day solution and is not a long term solution for the program.

Vice Mayor/Commissioner deHaan stated that he attended a workshop at Lincoln School; the City needs to be at the table during discussions to understand impacts.

Councilmember/Commissioner Matarrese stated the next Subcommittee meeting needs to be scheduled; that he would not support consolidating grades 7–12 into one school; the City should weigh in on all the issues so that the boards can talk about the direction that will be given based on the impacts.

Vice Mayor/Commission deHaan concurred; stated decisions cannot be made in a vacuum.

Councilmember/ Commissioner Gilmore stated the City definitely needs to work with the School District and raise concerns, but it is ultimately the School District's budget; the School District is the expert regarding its budget and the product that needs to be delivered; the City should not tell the District how to manage its budget.

Mayor/Chair Johnson concurred.

Councilmember/ Commissioner Tam stated that she wants to convey some businesses comments to the Subcommittee with respect to the school closures; there are some concerns that if Alameda High School becomes a middle school with a closed campus, a lot of stores, restaurants, and businesses that depend upon a non-closed campus would have serious revenue impacts.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor/Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
Secretary, CIC

The agenda for this meeting was posted in accordance with the Brown Act.